



TOWN OF
GREENWICH

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
Fred DeCaro III

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February 26, 2016

Chairman Cassano, Chairman Jutila, and all members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee:

This testimony is submitted on behalf of the Registrars of Voters of the Town of Greenwich, Sharon Vecchiolla, and Fred DeCaro III.

Regarding HB 5391, **AN ACT CONCERNING THE HANDLING OF VOTER AFFIDAVITS**

We can supply instances where voters who have been reactivated at the polls and a week later the confirmation letter we sent them is returned stating they do not live at the address provided. These affidavits go hand in hand with that problem. The affidavits are often abused by people who simply forget their wallet in the car, and do not want to walk back to the parking lot. We support a process which reduces opportunities for fraud, and encourages the voter to take more responsibility, and act with the same responsibility as the millions of voters who do come appropriately prepared on election day

Regarding HB 5392, **AN ACT CONCERNING TRAINING BY THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE REGARDING MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSES**

We support such training. Last year, we had not received a sample image of these licenses a week prior to the election. Fortunately ROVAC was able to send out a copy of these licenses when the Secretary of the State's Office was having technical difficulties.

Registrars train their poll workers and staff well in advance of an election. We can provide other examples where the instructions from the Secretary of the State come within a week of a major election. We encourage anything that requires the Secretary of the State to more properly plan their training well in advance.

Regarding SB 251 **AN ACT CONCERNING REPORTING OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS**

We support this bill and encourage its passage.

Regarding SB 253 **AN ACT CONCERNING POLLING PLACES FOR PRIMARIES**

We respect the desire of some to save money by consolidating polling places for primaries. We believe that the ability for a registrar to consolidate polling places for a primary can lead to mischief, and believe the Governor was correct to veto similar legislation in previous years. The best way to encourage turnout at all election is to have consistency in the location of polling places.

Regarding SB 254, **AN ACT CONCERNING SATURDAY REGISTRARS OF VOTERS SESSIONS**

Our senior Registrar, Sharon Vecchiolla, with more than 25 years in the position, can attest that this session is not effective at registering voters. We support removing this registration session.

Thank you.

Fred DeCaro III

Sharon Vecchiolla

Republican Registrar of Voters

Democratic Registrar of Voter